

IN THE CLAIMS:

Kindly cancel claims ^{✓✓}3-9, ^{✓✓}11 and ^{✓✓}14-19 without prejudice or disclaimer.

Kindly enter the following amended claims:

F₆
1. (Twice Amended) An isolated polypeptide belonging to a subfamily of the Immunoglobulin Superfamily consisting essentially of all or part of the amino acid sequence of murine Confluency Regulated Adhesion Molecule 1 (muCRAM-1, SEQ ID NO: 13), the isolated polypeptide being capable of modulating vascular endothelium function.

2. (Twice Amended) An isolated polypeptide belonging to a subfamily of the Immunoglobulin Superfamily consisting essentially of all or part of the amino acid sequence of human Confluency Regulated Adhesion Molecule 1 (huCRAM-1, SEQ ID NO.: 15), the isolated polypeptide being capable of modulating vascular endothelium function.

F₂
10. (Amended) The isolated polypeptide according to claim 13, wherein the polypeptide is a soluble polypeptide that inhibits transendothelial migration of leukocytes.

F₈
12. (Twice Amended) The isolated polypeptide according to claim 10, the polypeptide comprising at least one sequence against which anti-CRAM antibodies can be directed, the at least one sequence being selected from the group consisting of extracellular domain V, extracellular domain C₂ and the membrane proximal cytoplasmic sequence defined by amino acids 266-272 of SEQ ID NO.: 13.

F₉
13. The isolated polypeptide as claimed in claims 1, or 2 in soluble form.

Kindly enter the following new claims.

20. (New) The isolated polypeptide according to claim 13, wherein the isolated soluble polypeptide is capable of modulating vascular permeability.

F₁₀
21. (New) An isolated, soluble polypeptide belonging to a subfamily of the Immunoglobulin Superfamily having essentially 100% sequence homology with the amino acid sequence of muCRAM-1, set forth in SEQ ID NO: 13, or having essentially 100% sequence homology with the amino acid sequence of human huCRAM-1, set forth in SEQ ID NO.: 15;

wherein the isolated polypeptide polypeptide exhibits at least one function selected from the group consisting of inhibition of transendothelial migration of leukocytes and modulation of vascular permeability.